

IN THE ABSTRACT:

~~Cancel~~ the abstract and substitute a new abstract therefor as shown on the attached separate sheet.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-12 as follows:

1. (Amended) A molded plastic tubular coupling having a cylindrical surface to engage with a corresponding surface of another component, the cylindrical surface having an annular substantially V-shaped recess formed therein and a flexible annular diaphragm disposed in the recess integrally with the coupling at the apex of the recess and having an outer periphery extending outwardly from the cylindrical surface to engage and grip the corresponding surface of said another component.

2. (Amended) A tubular coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the flexible diaphragm is able to flex towards either side of the V when the coupling is engaged with said another component.

3. (Amended) A coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the recess and diaphragm are formed on the outer cylindrical surface of the coupling to engage an inner surface of a said another component to encircle the coupling.

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4. (Amended) A coupling as claimed in claim 3, wherein the coupling is intended to receive an end of a length of tubing, wherein the coupling has a sleeve portion having said recess and diaphragm formed around the outer surface of said sleeve portion partway along the sleeve, and wherein said sleeve portion has a tapered portion at one end to facilitate insertion of the sleeve into a said end of a length of tubing and an end stop at the other end of said sleeve to limit the insertion of said sleeve into said length of tubing.

5. (Amended) A coupling as claimed in claim 4, wherein the end stop comprises an annular head at said other end of the sleeve, said head projecting outwardly of the sleeve.

6. (Amended) A coupling as claimed in claim 5, wherein the head includes a means to grip and seal with an encircling component in which the sleeve is engaged.

7. (Amended) A coupling as claimed in claim 6, wherein the head has an encircling groove and a sealing ring seated in said groove.

8. (Amended) A coupling as claimed in claim 6, wherein the outer surface of the head has an annular recess, a further flexible diaphragm is disposed in the annular recess in the head and projecting outwardly from the outer surface of the head to engage and lock the head in the bore of an encircling component in which the coupling is located.

9. (Amended) A coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein the coupling has a second encircling annular recess with a second flexible annular diaphragm disposed therein to engage and grip in another component.

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10. (Amended) A coupling as claimed in claim 9, wherein the second recess is V-shaped and the second flexible annular diaphragm is formed in the apex of the V.

11. (Amended) A coupling as claimed in claim 9, wherein the second diaphragm projects marginally above said flexible annular diaphragm to provide a gripping function, said flexible annular diaphragm providing a sealing function with said another component in which the coupling is engaged.

12. (Amended) A coupling as claimed in claim 9 and in the case where the coupling has a head at one end, wherein the second annular recess is formed between the V-shaped recess and the head.

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are at issue. No claims have been allowed.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."